

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 01361 030852Z

21

ACTION L-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 H-01 INR-07 PM-03 PRS-01

SP-02 IO-03 DLOS-03 COA-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00

CIAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /048 W
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O R 030826Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8632

INFO USUN 1509

CINCPAC

S E C R E T SEOUL 1361

LIMDIS

EO 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: MARR, KS

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREA BOAT/AIRCRAFT INCIDENT IN YELLOW SEA

REF: A. STATE 46188 B. SEOUL 1339

1. IN MARCH 3 DISCUSSION WITH MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR YI SANG-OK ON YELLOW SEA INCIDENT, YI PROVIDED POLCOUNS WITH KOREAN-LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF ROKG STATEMENTS ON INCIDENT. MND FEBRUARY 26 STATEMENT REFERS TO AREA IN WHICH INCIDENT OCCURRED AS "THE FISHING PROTECTION ZONE WHICH IS OUR ZONE OF NAVAL OPERATIONS". IN LATER PASSAGE, STATEMENT SAYS, "THIS ZONE WAS ESTABLISHED AS A GUARDING AND PROTECTIVE ZONE FOR THE PROTECTION BY OUR NAVY OF FISHING OPERATIONS BY CIVILIAN FISHING VESSELS". STATEMENT NOTES THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO PREVIOUS "ENCROACHMENT" BY NK VESSELS INTO THIS ZONE.

2. STATEMENT ISSUED FEBRUARY 27 BY COUNTER-INFLILTRATION OPERATIONS COMMAND DESCRIBES AREA AS "PROTECTIVE OPERATIONS ZONE PROCLAIMED BY OUR SIDE FOR THE PROTECTION OF FISHING
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 01361 030852Z

ACTIVITIES BY CIVILIAN FISHING VESSELS".

THIS STATEMENT REFERS TO "ILLEGAL ENCROACHMENT" INTO AREA BY
NK VESSELS.

3. POLCOUNS POINTED OUT THAT WHILE ROKG STATEMENTS
DID NOT SPECIFICALLY CITE AREA AS EXCLUSIVE ROK FISHING
ZONE, THEIR THRUST SEEMED TO BE TO CLAIM EXISTENCE OF
ZONE FROM WHICH NK COULD BE BARRED. NOTING THAT USG
REGARDED AREA IN QUESTION AS INTERNATIONAL WATERS,
POLCOUNS MADE POINTS SPELLED OUT IN REF A. YI REPLIED
THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF BACKGROUND OF ZONES TO WHICH
STATEMENTS REFERRED AND SAID THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO
THE MATTER FURTHER.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 03 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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